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Botanical Bulletin.

Vol. 1.

OCTOBER, 1876.

No. 12.

CALANDRINIA LEANA, n. sp.—Smooth; leaves all radical, thick and succulent, oblanceolate, obtuse, 1—1½ inches long; scapes several from a thickened root, erect, 6 to 8 inches high, furnished above the middle and at the bases of the peduncles with small, ovate, scarious, glandular-denticulate bracts; inflorescence corymbose; sepals 2, orbicular, scarious, glandular-denticulate at the terminations of the veins, 1½ lines in length and breadth; petals 5 to 7, cuneate-obovate, retuse or emarginate, bright red, 6 lines long; stamens 5 to 7, shorter than the petals; style 2½ lines long; ovary of the same length, ovoid; ovules 2 to 10; seeds black, shining, estrophiolate. The whole plant is more or less reddish, and resembles *Spraguea umbellata* in its general habit. It is named for Mr. L. W. Lee, who collected it, August 2d, 1876, on the Siskiyou Mountains, near the southern boundary of Oregon.—THOS. C. PORTER.

A VALUABLE LIBRARY FOR SALE.—The Library of the French Botanist, Adolphe Brongniart, is to be sold by auction in Paris on the 4th of December next, and the succeeding days. The Catalogue makes a duodecimo volume of two hundred and forty pages. The botanical portion is of course the richest and fills a hundred and seventy-four pages, comprising all departments of the science. The department of fossil plants is especially full, and, as the prefatory note remarks, would make a library by itself, and is almost complete. M. Brongniart was the creator of vegetable palæontology, and to the end of his life devoted himself to collecting all that was published on this subject, small and great. Besides this the library contains many important works on vegetable anatomy, and many very rare pamphlets, and papers published in the proceedings of learned societies. The books are subject to an addition of 5 per cent. to the price for the expenses of the sale, and an additional 5 per cent. to the agent, M. E. Deyrolle, fils, 23 rue de la Monnaie, Paris, of whom we presume catalogues may be procured by any one desiring them.—W.

FERNS AT THE CENTENNIAL.—The Hawaiian department at the Centennial Exhibition contains several sets of the Ferns of the Islands, which are very beautiful, and comprise over a hundred different species. They would be a desirable acquisition for a collector of Ferns, but the prices set upon them are altogether too high. Thirty dollars for a hundred specimens of small Ferns, and from that up to seventy-five dollars and more for large ones, is altogether out of proportion to the usual commercial price of *Exsiccati*. Thus Norrlin's collection of Lapland lichens, embracing 300 species, is furnished for thirty dollars, and the labor and expense of collecting plants in that arctic region must be much greater than in the tropical islands.—W.

SOME NOTES FROM MILWAUKEE.—From a private letter of Dr. J. S. Douglas to the Editor, the following notes are of general interest: "Have you discovered any rays in the *Aster angustus*? It is new in this region, having first appeared here two years ago, but is now abundant, but I have never been able to discover any rays. The introduction of new plants in a locality is curious. For example, I

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Terms:—Subscription \$1.00 a year. Single Numbers 10 cents.

have inquired for twenty years for the familiar eastern *Erechthites hieracifolius*, but no botanist or farmer had ever seen it in this State. Two years ago Dr. Lapham asserted that it had never reached Wisconsin. A week afterwards I discovered it for the first time in a door-yard adjoining my office. A few days later I found it in considerable abundance along the Wisconsin Central R. R., north of Steven's Point.

A friend just informs me that he has found the *Lobelia syphilitica* perfectly white, growing with the blue. Is this a new departure?"

SOME VARIATIONS.—There are some strange varieties of a few plants growing in this vicinity, which I thought might prove to be interesting to the readers of the BOTANICAL BULLETIN. *Caltha palustris*, L., found flowering in meadows from the latter part of March to May, varies in its flower considerably. The sepals, not unfrequently, instead of numbering 5 to 9, as descriptions in books state, become as numerous as 13 to 15 and less than half as wide as usual and spatulate in form. I collected a remarkable flower of this plant, several years ago, in which the sepals, 13 in number, are disposed in two whorls. The lower whorl is about half an inch beneath the upper, consists of 10 sepals, spatulate, generally entire, a few triply crenate at their somewhat widened apex, and the venation closer than usual. The apex of the peduncle, bearing the stamens and pistils, is surrounded by two small and one large sepal. Probably this form is merely a monstrosity, yet it is interesting to note the tendency in this plant to produce a greater number of sepals than is noted in botanical works. I have not collected any of the above forms in seed, therefore am unable to state whether further variation might be found in the follicles and seed.

Camptosorus rhizophyllus, Link., is one of our most interesting and abundant ferns, growing luxuriantly on damp shaded limestone rocks. The auricles of the fronds vary in shape considerably; in some forms almost absent, with scarcely an enlarged base, to largely auricled and hastate, the slender prolongation growing from the latter forms often rooting and producing new plants. The frond is sometimes found bifid, the divisions spreading at about half its length, each portion bearing a midrib and terminating in a very slender apex. I have found some plants bearing sori, in which the frond is remarkably short, oblong, obtuse, widening at the base into obtuse auricles. Again I have another form in which the auricles are so deeply cleft from the main frond, as nearly to form three distinct divisions.—E. A. RAU, *Bethlehem, Pa.*

BOTANY OF THE GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY OF MINNESOTA.—The Regents of the University of Minnesota have taken action ordering the commencement of a thorough and systematic examination of the flora of the State. To facilitate such an examination Prof. N. H. Winchell, chief of the Survey, has issued a circular letter to the botanists of the state, giving them directions how to proceed to work systematically. As Minnesota is beyond the range of ordinary text books, the books necessary for working up the flora are expensive and some of them hard to get, and of course by centralizing all their forces at the University, a much greater and more satisfactory kind of work can be done. Such a survey ought to be ordered in every State. There are geological surveys enough to work up every corner of every state, but botanical observations on any part of a state must creep in by special favor. Our public spirited legislators, who can see the point of voting appropriations for opening up their coal fields and iron regions, have not been educated sufficiently yet to know the economic value of a good botanical survey or that a geological survey cannot be complete without it. But botanists *will* work whether they have appropriations or not, and though it is necessarily a slower process, the work will be done eventually, and may be all the better for its slow and careful progress.—ED.

RECENT PERIODICALS.—*American Journal of Science and Arts*, September. A pa-